

Tufts Health Plan Scholarships 2004



The Group Insurance Commission is pleased to announce a scholarship program sponsored by Tufts Health Plan of Massachusetts. In Calendar Year 2004, two individual \$2,500 scholarships are available to eligible **undergraduate** students *currently enrolled* in any two- or four-year, public or private college or university, who have completed, at a minimum, one semester of classes. The student's parent(s) and/or legal guardian(s) must be a current active or retired Massachusetts State employee. Each scholarship is merit-based. Applications will be evaluated based on the student's college GPA, an essay, and letter of recommendation, all of which must be received by the GIC by August 20, 2004.

Eligibility Criteria

- Undergraduate student currently enrolled full-time in any two- or four-year, public or private college or university who is the child or dependent of a current active or retired Massachusetts State employee.
- Minimum college GPA of 3.0. The student must have completed at least one semester of college as of August 20, 2004.
- The applicant should demonstrate interest in a career in public service (preferably with a health care focus) or demonstrate an interest in entering the health care field.
- The scholarship recipient's parent or legal guardian must be a Massachusetts State employee or retiree at the time of the award.

Exclusions to Eligibility Criteria

- Dependents of Group Insurance Commission employees and those Massachusetts State employees who are appointed members of the Commission are not eligible.
- Undergraduate students who will graduate prior to July 31, 2004 are not eligible.

Application Process Requirements

- Essay (please see attached).
- One letter of recommendation (academic preferred). Please submit in an envelope with your application packet.
- Copy of your most recent official college transcript.
- All materials must be completed and received by the Group Insurance Commission by August 20, 2004.

Award Procedure

- Scholarship recipients will be notified by September 10, 2004.
- Checks will be made payable directly to the registrar's office of the student's college or university.

STUDENT APPLICATION

Student Name:	
Social Security Number:	
Permanent Address:	
Home Phone:	
Work Phone:	
Summer Address (if different from above):	
Name of College/ University: (include address)	
Current Major:	
Current GPA:	
Name of High School:	
Parent/ Guardian Name:	
Parent's GIC ID# (or Social Security #) and agency:	

COMPLETED APPLICATIONS ARE DUE BY 5PM on AUGUST 20, 2004 at:

**Scholarship Committee
Group Insurance Commission
P.O. Box 8747
Boston, MA 02114**

* Letters of recommendation may be sent under separate cover, if necessary.

** Award recipients will be notified by September 10, 2004.

Please review the issue outlined below and write an essay that responds to each of the questions that follow:

Issue:

Throughout the country, various health plans and health care organizations are developing programs and rating systems to evaluate doctors and hospitals on their quality of care and on their ability to control costs. The intent of these programs is to provide information to enable consumers to make more informed decisions about where and from whom they seek health care. The theory behind this type of health plan design is that, armed with better information on health care providers, consumers will choose the best physicians and hospitals.

1. If you could design such a program, what would be the key components of your design?
2. What incentives would you use to encourage consumers to a) learn about doctors' and hospitals' performance and to b) use that information in making decisions about their health care?
3. What key groups would be essential to the success of this type of program and what role would each play?

(Responses must be written by the student. Please limit answer to 3 pages).